Ex 14 15. And the Lord said unto Moses,
Wherefore criest thou unto me?
Speak unto the children of Israel,
that they go forward.

Theme:- God's Law of Progress.

Intro:-

A. All things are in motion.

- Harriet Martineau

"Beneath this starry arch,
Naught resteth or is still;
But all things hold their march
As if by one great will.
Move one, move all;
Hark to the footfall!
On, on, forever.

B. All things move out of a state of homogeneity into a state of heterogeneity.

1. From "without form and void" into the heavens & the earth
2. From a ball of molten mass into this earthly land & water.
3. From a few simple forms of plant & animal life into many the and complex varieties of life.
4. From childish savagery to social civilization.

I. How God has compelled man to move forward.

A. Persued by the Egyptians, the Israelites had to go forward or die.

1. Necessity drives us out of our Egypts — sloth and slavery toward a higher destiny.

2. The picture of man harnessed to the plow, driven by the whip of "Necessity".

B. Forward thru the wilderness of struggle.

1. The wilderness struggle developed a ripened intelligence, self-reliance, courage, skill, manliness, virtue.

2. Jacob wrestling with the angel.

As Jacob did, so we suffer in the struggle.

stiff limbs + bent form of industry

C. Progress by displacement.

1. The less fit Esau displaced by the more fit Jacob.

"Many are called but few are chosen."

the worn-out old must give way to the stronger new

the good is set aside for the better

"Thus times do shift, each thing his turn doth hold;
New things succeed, as former things grow old."
— Herrick.

2. Progress by Ideals.

a. The Israelites urged forward by the prospects of "The Promised Land."

In the blessings and achievements of the future, man finds his highest incentive to go on.

"Ideals"

B. The Trend of Human Progress.

I. From homogeneity to heterogeneity.

1. As in all nature.

2. From the uniformity of savagery to the high degree of specialization of civilization.

Savagery — dead level of uniformity

barbarism — less uniformity more variety

civilization — greater degree of specialization.

II. From heterogeneity to Unity.

1. Process of differentiation throws all into collision. Strife + warfare —

2. And of turmoil & strife into the unity of coordination and cooperation.

THE PRINCIPLE OF PROGRESS

Exodus 14:15 And Jehovah said unto Moses:
"Command the people that they go forward."

INTRO:

A. Everything is in motion.

"Beneath this starry arch,
Nought resteth or is still:
But all things hold their march
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Move one, move all;
Hark to the foot-fall!
On, on, forever! Harriet Martineau

Space & the world's ruled progress would cease and end.

B. Changing homogeniety into heterogeniety.

I. From an earth without form and void to the present complex land and sea.

Nebular hypothesis.

II. Development of the race.
Savagery---uniformity
Barbarism---less uniformity and more diversity
Civilization---the greatest degree of specialization.

C. From heterogeniety to Unity.

I. Heterogeniety causes Collision, conflict, and struggle.
Heterogenious aquisitions, pursuits, and ambitions conflict and war with one another.

The herdsmen of Abraham and Lot quarrel.
The Hebrew slaves and Egyptian taskmaster go to war, likewise Israelites with Cananites. Peter and Paul cannot agree. Also

Controversy between Catholic and Protestant, between science and religion.

II. Collision and strife give way to unity and peace.

The old battle grounds become the settled areas of cooperation and unity.

The field of beautiful wild-flowers.

But the new unity is not the old ~~uniform~~ homogenity, that was uniformity, dead-level equality; but this unity is civilized subordination, interdependent inequalities of multiplied variety.

BODY;

I. <u>Progress by Necessity</u>.

The pursuing Egyptians made it necessary for the Israelites to go forward or die

Man attached to the plow of progress driven by Father Time cracking the whi whip of Necessity.

Hungerand thirst, the need of shelter, of more room for existence, of fitting into an ever changing environmen by these has God ever been driving men up out of their Egypt of sloth and sl slavery toward a higher destiny.

II. <u>Progress by Struggle</u>. In the wilderness

Jacob wrestling with the angel.

In the struggle for life our great Antagonist is our Helper for we are being transformed from natives of South Sea countires who lie on their backs and let the fruits of trees frop into their open mouths, thru barbarisms, into princes of God and heirs of all things.

III. <u>Progress by Ideals.</u> <u>The land flowing with milk and honey</u>.

"What should we do in this world of ours,
Were it not for the dreams ahead?
For thorns are mixed with the blooming flowers,
No matter which path you tread.

"And each of us has his golden goal,
Stretching far into the years;
And ever he climbs with a hopeful soul,
With alternate smiles and tears.

"To sume its a dream of high estate,
To some tis a dream of wealth,
To some its a dream of truce with fate
In a constant search for health.

"To some its a dream of home and wife,
To some its a crown above;
The dreams ahead are what make each life-
The dreams--and faith--and love!"

Realizable ideals and unrealizable ones,
The boy throwing rocks aimed to fly over the church tower.

"Climb on! Climb ever! No'er despond,
Tho from each summit gained
There stretch forth ever heights beyond
Ideals to be attained!
Life's rescript simply is to climb,
Unheeding toil and tire;
Failure hath no attaint of crime,
If we but still aspire."

Jas.T.White.